

CLAIMS

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An insulating holder for a rigid bottle having a top with a neck that increases in diameter down its length, and a bottom, or for a beverage can that is generally cylindrical with a substantially flat top and bottom, the insulating holder comprising:

a lower cylindrical enclosure with insulating foam material for thermally insulating the rigid bottle, the lower cylindrical enclosure with a first and second end having a first closed end and a circular opening at the second end into a cylindrical interior for receiving the bottom half of the rigid bottle; and

an upper cylindrical enclosure with insulating foam material for thermally insulating the rigid bottle, the upper enclosure having a dome-shaped first end integrally formed into a cylindrical section that terminates in a circular rim at a second end adapted to telescopically fit into the cylindrical interior of the lower cylindrical enclosure;

the first dome-shaped end having a circular opening therein extending into a cylindrical interior, the opening sized to pass over the top of the rigid bottle and come into a locking relation with the neck of the rigid bottle somewhere along the neck, the diameter of the circular opening determining the ultimate and final extent to which the upper cylindrical enclosure extends into said lower cylindrical enclosure, the cylindrical interior of the upper cylindrical enclosure fitting over the body of the rigid bottle; and

a skin structure located in the cylindrical interior of the upper cylindrical enclosure; the skin structure adapted to grasp the exterior of a cylindrical beverage can placed into the upper cylindrical enclosure by pushing it through the circular rim

at the second enclosure and into the cylindrical interior until the bottom of the can contracts the interior surface of the dome-shaped first end;

whereby when the insulating holder is used for holding a beverage can, the upper cylindrical enclosure telescopically fits into the cylindrical interior of the lower cylindrical enclosure with the first dome-shaped end located at the first closed end of the lower cylindrical enclosure.

2. The insulating holder of claim 1 further comprising:

a first thread means located on the inside of said lower cylindrical enclosure;

and

a second thermal means formed on a lower portion of the exterior surface of said upper cylindrical enclosure and extending partway up the side of said upper enclosure, said first and second thread means cooperating during insertion of said upper enclosure in said lower enclosure and retaining said upper enclosure located within said lower enclosure, whether the upper enclosure is inserted into the lower enclosure, second end first or first end first.

3. The insulating holder of claim 2 wherein insertion of the upper enclosure into the lower enclosure is accomplished by a relative rotation of the upper enclosure with respect to the lower enclosure.

4. The insulating holder of claim 2 wherein the lower enclosure has a depth sized to receive at least one-fourth of the length of the bottle and wherein the thread means in the lower enclosure begins at the circular second end.

5. The insulating holder of claim 2 wherein the upper and lower enclosures are constructed of a rigid insulating foam material.

6. The insulating holder of claim 1 further comprising:

a first series of circumferential grooves on the inside of said lower cylindrical enclosure; and

a second series of circumferential grooves formed on a lower portion of the exterior surface of said upper enclosure and extending partway up the side of said upper enclosure, the first and second series of grooves cooperating to retain said upper enclosure located within said lower enclosure, whether the upper enclosure is inserted into the lower enclosure, second end first or first end first.

7. The insulating holder of claim 6 wherein the lower enclosure has a depth sized to receive at least one-fourth of the length of the bottle and wherein the thread means in the lower enclosure begins at the circular second end.

8. The insulating holder of claim 6 wherein the upper and lower enclosures are constructed of a rigid insulating foam material.

9. The insulating holder of claim 1 further comprising:

a series of circumferential grooves on the inside of said lower cylindrical enclosure; and

a circumferential ridge at the second end of the upper enclosure, the series of circumferential grooves and the circumferential ridge cooperating to retain said upper enclosure located with said lower enclosure when the upper enclosure is inserted into the lower enclosure, second end first.

10. The insulating holder of claim 9 wherein the lower enclosure has a depth sized to receive at least one-fourth of the length of the bottle and wherein the thread means in the lower enclosure begins at the circular second end.

11. The insulating holder of claim 9 wherein the upper and lower enclosures are constructed of a rigid insulating foam material.

12. The insulating holder of claim 1 further comprising:

a first series of circumferential indulation on the inside of said lower cylindrical enclosure; and

a second series of circumferential indulation formed on a lower portion of the exterior surface of said upper enclosure and extending partway up the side of said upper enclosure, the first and second series of undulations cooperating to retain said upper enclosure with said lower enclosure, whether the upper enclosure is inserted into the lower enclosure, second end first or first end first.

13. The insulating holder of claim 12 wherein the lower enclosure has a depth sized to receive at least one-fourth of the length of the bottle and wherein the thread means in the lower enclosure begins at the circular second end.

14. The insulating holder of claim 12 wherein the upper and lower enclosures are constructed of a rigid insulating foam material.

15. The insulating holder of claim 1 further comprising:

a handle mounted on the outside surface of said lower enclosure;

a pivoting latch attached to the handle for contacting the exterior surface of the upper enclosure when inserted into the lower enclosure; and

a series of circumferential grooves formed in a lower portion of the exterior surface of said upper enclosure and extending partway up the side of said upper enclosure, the latch and circumferential grooves cooperating to retain said upper

enclosure within said lower enclosure, whether the upper enclosure is inserted into the lower enclosure, second end first or first end first.

16. The insulating holder of claim 15 wherein the lower enclosure has a depth sized to receive at least one-fourth of the length of the bottle and wherein the thread means in the lower enclosure begins at the circular second end.

17. The insulating holder of claim 15 wherein the upper and lower enclosures are constructed of a rigid insulating foam material.

18. The insulating holder of claim 1 further comprising:

a latch attached to outside surface of said lower enclosure for contacting the exterior surface of the upper enclosure when inserted into the lower enclosure; and

a series of circumferential grooves formed in a lower portion of the exterior surface of said upper enclosure and extending partway up the outside of said upper enclosure, the latch and circumferential grooves cooperating to retain said upper enclosure within said lower enclosure, whether the upper enclosure is inserted into the lower enclosure, second end first or first end first.

19. The insulating holder of claim 18 wherein the lower enclosure has a depth sized to receive at least one-fourth of the length of the bottle and wherein the thread means in the lower enclosure begins at the circular second end.

20. The insulating holder of claim 18 wherein the upper and lower enclosures are constructed of a rigid insulating foam material.